Southington June 25th. 1829. Thursday Morning

My very dear Brother, will I trust forgive me, if I have caused him anxiety respecting his distant friends by neglecting to write for so long a period, when he is informed of all the circumstances that occurred to prevent the fulfillment of my promise to communicate something monthly. — It was not without deep regret that the time passed over unimproved, but yet it could not well be otherwise & I will now state my reasons. — I think I mentioned in my last that we expected some of our friends from Catskill would be on here in the month of May. — On the 18th Sophia arrived with Ann, remained here 'tile the 20th, & then went on to Hartford accompanied by brother C— & myself. After seeing Ann comfortably settled at her school we left H— on the same day, for Northington, & there C— left us at Uncle George's & returned home. We continued there untill the next afternoon & then came on to Farmington & did not reach home 'tile the 23rd. The succeeding week Sophia spent in this town a part of it with us & the remainder with the friends of Mr W— Wherever *she* went I went also, & the days of my absence was the time which under other circumstances would have been devoted to you. As I was disappointed writing by the 1st. I thought I would avail myself of the opportunity of the 10th — but *on* the 1st we went to New Haven; & S— did not leave there on her return home untill a week afterwards. It was then too late for that ship, but I made my calculation to write by the next, thinking that I should ere that time had returned here, but it so happened that I did not come untill the 18th & it was again too late. Perhaps you may not consider my excuse sufficient, but indeed dear brother I think it is. Sophia's visits are so 'few & far between' that I wished to devote every moment that was not necessarily engaged in every day duties, to her, in order to render every thing as agreeable as possible. — I believe she left us quite satisfied & much better pleased with Nancy than she expected —

And now, I have the receipt of three letters to acknowledge from you, viz from Rome March 17th pr Chs Carroll, on the 15. May, from Naples March 31st pr Henri IV & Rome April 16th by the same on the 12th June. By the C. C. came also the expected package, from Paris, which Mr M— forwarded immediately & which we received by Sophia. All came without injury & free of expense, & it is with deeply grateful feelings that I would thank you my brother for the valuable present which your kindness & affection led you to send me. I admire it for its plainness, & value it for its usefulness, but its highest merit in my estimation is, that it is the gift of my *elder brother*. The other articles are very pretty, & for my share of them I would render to Sister Theresa my heartfelt thanks. — From the bags I selected the scarlet, not because I admired the colour most, but thought that it was as well, or better that our sisters should have those that were alike. —

These tokens of affection are most gratifying, most soothing to my feelings, as they tell me that though my friends have new & stronger ties than those that bind brother & sister to each other, yet that these are not forgotten. From George & Sarah I have since receiv a handsome bead bag.

The visit of our Catskill sister has I think removed many, & perhaps all, the unkind feelings which existed between her & our brother here. He has long said he should never invite her to come, as he felt that she had ill treated him, but during her stay here she received as much attention from him as she could wish & they parted on the most friendly terms. She came with strong prejudices against Nancy but the kind attention of the latter removed them & she left much pleased. — Cornelia took quite a fancy to her aunt at once; & the favorable impression seemed to be mutual. The fortnight passed away without a cloud & most sincerely did I rejoice that it was so & do still rejoice that the family tie which came so nigh to sundering has again been strengthened. — We made a division of those things which formerly belonged to Aunt Ogden entirely to the satisfaction of both — Of the china I took three plates & the large bowl, also the small decanter & a small tumbler. I did not forget that you spoke of taking the bowl yourself, but she seemed to wish to have it, & said if you continued to wish for it you could take it from C—. — It is really a relief to my mind that a satisfactory division has been made, for I have ever looked forward to it with anxiety & fear that it might create more unhappiness—

Helen was left as housekeeper during the absence of her Mother, but on the return of the latter she found her quite indisposed. — We have since heard that she has recovered; — S— was so fortunate as to meet Mr & Mrs Henry Upson on board the steam boat who were on their way to the Springs & thus she had their company all the way. — — James has at last become so dissatisfied with the Ind. Bank that he has empowered C— to sell his stock at 95. the price at which it now stands. There has been no dividend this month, & tis not probable that there will be any till December. There will be one consolation when it is disposed of; we we shall not hear so much scolding about the mismanagement of the Bank site

Our new meeting house was raised last month & no accident occurred, but they advance very slowly with it & it will be a long time before it will be completed. The old house is in a most miserable state, & by no means fit to meet in. The wall pews at the north end are taken up, in order to furnish a place for piling lumber, & the internal appearance of the house during the week is a complete work-shop. The upper laying of the floor is partly taken up, & tis almost certain that with much weight the remaining boards would break. Our seat was in one of the pews taken up, & we now have the privilege of sitting with Mrs Ogden. Not however by our request, but by that of the Soc. Com. In this state of things it is not surprising that many should attend the Baptist church, where they have regular preaching. Indeed this society has increased greatly in the last two or three years & very many of the youth who belong to none attend there. You would be surprised to see how thin our galleries are, compared with the numbers which occupied them before the day of "innovation" commenced. — Dr Barnes says "every one does that which is right in his own eyes among us, & I believe the remark is very just —

Much is expected from you by the public & I trust it will not be disappointed. — Mr H. E. Dwight's volume has appeared & is highly spoken of. The work itself I have not read, but several extracts have been published in the N. Y. O. which were interesting. — The Dwight school or Gymnasium as it is called is very flourishing & contains about one hundred pupils. — Tis said that they will acquire wealth by it.

Perhaps you will have heard that "Reform" is the order of the day throughout our land since the present administration came into office & in consequence, that foreign Ministers have been recalled & new ones appointed. more than 100 Post masters have been removed as well as hundreds of other public characters. It is said the Pres. is losing friends among those who supported him.

With sincere love for yourself & wife I am your affectionate sister

Elizabeth

Friday Morning. — I expected that brother Charles would have occupied this page but he did not find leisure to write last evening & this morning he has gone to New Haven. It is his intention to write you soon & in the mean time he said I might inform you of whatever I pleased. George will perhaps write also at the present time & inform you more fully of C—'s affairs than I can do. — It was not until last week that I ever received a hint that C had endorsed for Mr Mulford & I should have still remained in ignorance but that he found himself compelled to pay this week the sum of $3500 or more. The information was overwhelming to all & I myself sympathised deeply with poor C— I had noticed that G— seemed depressed through the day without knowing the cause, but when he told me of this I did not wonder at his feelings He said he had long feared the consequences, & had cautioned C— but now advised as the only course that would meet the exigences of the case, if I was willing, that my RR Stock should be pledged in order to obtain the money. He said he certainly should not advise it if he thought there was the slightest risk in so doing, but that C— would give me sufficient security not only on that but all other claims. On enquiry at the Bank C— found that the better course would be to dispose of the Stock & after consulting me he sold it for $3800 & gave me a note for forty shares. I went to the Bank with C & it was transferred to me & then by me to the Bank. The business is not all arranged, G— is to decide the amount of security to be given. — It is altogether a most unhappy affair, but C— does not suffer alone the Townsends & James M— are as deeply burdened. It is not known out of the circle immediately interested. — C— can tell you better respecting his pla than I can do. I believe however it is his intention to sell off his out lands, & convert some of his stock into money as soon as practicable. He goes to N.Y. this evening to attend to this business, has taken Miss Clara to N.H. with him, & Nancy & Cornelia were previously there.

It is impossible my dear brother to express in adequate language the desire I have to see you, to receive you again among us as a counsellor & guide. I do beseech you to return to this country before winter if it is by any means consistent with the safety & comfort of your wife, we need you here & we long to see you. — You will I know be surprised to hear that I have again seen Mr L— & had a long conversation with him. He ~~came~~ went to New Haven & spent two days & then intended to come to S— It happened to be at the time that I went down with Sophia & as he was informed that I was expected, (in answer to some enquiry he made respecting me,) he called at brother G—'s and requested to see me. He assigned ~~two~~ the following reasons for not fulfilling his promise to write, viz. his unsettled state, after he left Middletown, not getting fixed in one place before being invited to another, & then after having neglected it for a long time a resolution to come in person. Another was the reserve I had manifested towards him which left him in doubt as to the depth of my feelings for him. He said it was his wish that there should have been an engagement made at our interview two years since & that he still wished it might take place now. I stated what my opinion of him had been & so, he thought my charges against him were very serious, but hoped that I would yet think more favorably of him & proposed, that if so, he might be informed — It is ~~for~~ to obtain your advice upon this subject, your opinion frankly & fully, that I more particularly wish to see you at this time; yet it cannot be, the billows of the Atlantic separate us. My sisters think the explanation is satisfactory & that he has given convincing

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Southington Ct
June 27

Rec. Aug 11.

Paid 12½

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PAYS [illegible]
PAR [illegible] HAVRE

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JUIL
1829

Mr Edward Robinson
Care of Messieurs B. Curtis & Porter
Rue de l'Echiquier No. 44.
Paris

in France